

Social Service Human Relations Board

Minutes of the Regular Meeting, Thursday, June 24, 2010

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL** President Wasko called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Present were: Vice President Villareal, Soglin, James, Dailey, and Biggs. Absent was: Nielsen
Staff: Franz

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** The Minutes of the Regular March 25, 2010 meeting were approved as corrected (Biggs/Soglin) and the Minutes of the Regular April 15, 2010 were approved as presented (Dailey/ Soglin)

3.

3-A. **RESOLUTION COMMENDING OUTGOING MEMBER JONATHAN SOGLIN**

A Resolution commending member Soglin's service to the community as a SSHRB member was read by President Wasko and approved by the Board -M/S (Villareal/Dailey)- Unanimous (Soglin abstained). The Resolution was presented to member Soglin, and Vice President Villareal expressed his pleasure working on ATAH with member Soglin. President Wasko thanked him for his help with the Dental Clinic.

The Board suspended business and held a brief reception in member Soglin's honor.

3-B. **A REQUEST FROM PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THEIR SUBMITTAL OF A SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SRTS) GRANT**

Staff distributed sample letters of support for a SRTS Grant being applied for by City of Alameda Public Works, and explained that they are requesting that the board provide a letter in support of their effort to secure the grant. The funds would be used for capital improvements in targeting Franklin and Wood. Some of the grant would be used to provide safety education.

While the Youth Collaborative has already voted to provide a letter of support, they voiced concern that similar improvements were needed at schools on the West End and that Public Works should be encouraged to apply for additional funds for these schools. They also hoped that the funds to provide safety education from the current grant could be used for West End schools.

The Board voiced support for the current grant, but also had interest in a second letter regarding SRTS improvements for West End schools, after more information could be collected. Board discussion included a 2004 grant to create a study related to needs on the West End. Traffic issues at Chipman were also discussed and should be considered in drafting a second letter.

It was agreed that the Board letter should include explanation of the Board's purpose/mission, and that the educational component of the grant should be highlighted. Member Biggs noted that it might be best to support this grant proposal as written rather than suggest changes that might adversely impact the success of the grant.

M/S (James/Soglin) to write a Letter of Support for the SRTS grant being submitted by Public Works. Unanimous

It was agreed to have staff gather additional information before a second letter is drafted.

M/S (James/Villareal) to write a letter to Public Works (Cc'ing other departments as appropriate) encouraging them to use the current grant request as a model for improvements in other neighborhoods, and to add relevant information gathered from the 2004 Survey and any information available regarding traffic surveys. Unanimous

3-C. **PARTICIPATION IN THE MAYOR'S 4TH OF JULY PARADE**

Discussion regarding the Board's participation in the Parade included our need for a "single drop" trailer to make it easier to get off and on, the need for people to help build the float, and people to ride on the float.

M/S (Villareal/James) for the Board to support and participate in the parade, and to authorize up to \$250 for supplies. Unanimous

3-D. **NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS**

Staff explained that while the Board can make nominations at this meeting, they will need to wait until there is a fully constituted Board before they can vote.

Member Villareal nominated President Wasko for President and Member Biggs nominated Vice President Villareal for Vice President.

M/S (James/Soglin) that nominations be closed. Unanimous

3-E. **WORK GROUP PROGRESS REPORTS**

Alamedans Together Against Hate Workgroup – Villareal

It was suggested to write a letter to former Police Chief Tibbett thanking him for working with the Board. ATAH can write a letter themselves rather than waiting for it to be agendaized.

Sister City Workgroup – Wasko

There will be an Exhibit of sister City Photographs at the Free Library the entire month of August, with a reception on August 12th. The group is still seeking a pro-bono / reasonable lawyer to apply for tax exempt status.

Resource Sharing Workgroup – Biggs

The workgroup (Biggs & Dailey) met with member Nielsen to discuss how they could work in partnership with the A&AW. Ideas

4. BOARD/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA -

Staff suggested: taking off either July or August, waiting until after the elections to meet with the new Mayor and City Council, and having a “meeting of the whole” work session to discuss Board / Workgroup plans for next year. The work session would include discussing the upcoming needs assessment.

Member Biggs announced that a book vending machine in front of the APC offices would have its Grand Opening on June 30th. It holds 900 books, and 300 new library cards have been issued on the West End. This machine is the 1st of its kind in the country. He also mentioned that it would be good to encourage positive discourse during the upcoming election.

President Wasko echoed Member Biggs concern.

Member James announced that he and Member Biggs were present at the city council meeting representing the Board’s CDBG recommendations.

Member Villareal voiced concern regarding the West End taking the brunt of cuts resulting from Measure E not passing.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - Information - 3 minutes per speaker

6. ADJOURNMENT

M/S (James/Soglin) to adjourn. 8:50

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Franz
Community Development Coordinator